

Message Text

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SUBJECT: MAJOR PROJECTS: TRANSPORTATION SECTOR

REF: A. DAKAR A-87, NOVEMBER 23, 1977
B. DAKAR 4658 - C. STATE 155824

1. TWO LARGEST PROJECTS IN TRANSPORTATION SECTOR ARE
PORT SEDAR AND DAKAR MARINE. BRIEF UPDATE ON FORMER
WAS PROVIDED REF B. SITUATION CURRENTLY UNCLEAR AS
WORLD BANK AND IRANIAN GOVERNMENT ATTEMPT TO WORK OUT
WITH GOS NEW PLAN FOR PRESELECTION OF FIRMS FOR PORT
STUDY. THIS WILL BE AMONG PRIORITY ITEMS MINISTER
OF PLANNING LOUIS ALEXANDRENNE WILL DISCUSS WITH BANK
OFFICIALS ON TRIP TO WASHINGTON BEGINNING JUNE 25.

2. DAKAR MARINE HAS TAKEN NEW TURN SINCE SUBMISSION OF
RE A. NORWAY HAS AGREED TO FINANCE AND CONSTRUCT
\$25 MILLION FLOATING DRYDOCK FOR MARINE REPAIR
FACILITY. DRYDOCK WILL SERVICE SHIPS UP TO 60,000 TONS
IN SIZE. FEASIBILITY STUDY COMPLETED 1976 UK FIRM
APPLEDORE FOUND STRONG MARKET FOR FACILITY REPAIRING
SHIPS OF THIS SIZE.

3. ONSHORE PORTION OF DAKAR MARINE INVOLVES CIVIL WORKS AND
EQUIPMENT INSTALLATION WORTH ESTIMATED \$31 MILLION. IDRISSA
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PAGE 02 DAKAR 04776 231019Z

DIALLO, ACTING DIRECTOR OF PROJECT, URGED EMBOFF TO PUBLI
CIZE PROJECT IN US, PARTICULARLY AMONG FIRMS WHICH CAN ASS-
EMBLE FULL FINANCING PACKAGE. CATCH IS GOS LOOKING FOR 10-
YEAR FINANCING AT FIVE PERCENT. WE TOLD HIM THAT SORT OF
DEAL DOES NOT EXIST EXCEPT IN AID TRANSFERS. (LOCAL BANKER,
HAS TOLD US THAT BANQUE SENEGALO-KOWEITIENNE (BSK) IS NOW
LOOKING AT DAKAR MARINE. BSK IS LOCAL CONDUIT FOR KUWAIT FUND

MONEY WHICH MIGHT BE FOUND AT RATE DIALLO SEEKS. POST WILL
CONTINUE TO FOLLOW SITUATION CLOSELY.)

4. DAKAR MARINE IDEA HAS BEEN AROUND SINCE 1971 WHEN
IT WAS FIRST CONCEIVED AS SUPERTANKER REPAIR FACILITY.
WHEN MARITIME TRAFFICE PATTERNS CHANGED AFTER/REOPENING
OF SUEZ CANAL IT WAS SCALED DOWN TO PRESENT PROPORTIONS.
PROJECT WAS KEPT OR BACK BURNER FOR SEVERAL YEARS BUT
NOW MAY MOVE AHEAD DUE TO NORWEGIAN COMMITMENT AND FACT
THAT FORMER DIRECTOR OF DAKAR MARINE, CHEIKH HAMIDOU KANE,
NOW MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, IS LIKELY
TO GIVE PROJECT CLOSE ATTENTION.
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